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EDITORIAL NOTES

THE SECOND DECADE.

This issue of your JOURNAL completes the first volume of the second row of ten and is sturdier by far than its elder brother of ten years ago. Before discussing anything else, the editor desires to express his sincere thanks to all those who have helped to make up this last volume and for the almost perfect courtesy and consideration which have been extended to him and to the Publication Committee, alike by those whose contributions have and have not been accepted. Two things are to be distinctly noted as indicating advancement: first, the quality of the papers written by our physicians in California has improved very markedly in the last ten years, not alone in the matter presented but also in the care displayed in writing and the preparation of manuscripts; second, the circulation of the JOURNAL is slowly but surely increasing in spreading through the country, and this in spite of the fact that no agents are employed and no "sample copies" have been sent out. It is also interesting to note that many articles which have appeared in your JOURNAL have been quoted or abstracted in a number of medical publications in this country and abroad. All of this goes to show that the prophesy made ten years ago was not far wrong: that a journal owned by ourselves and stimulating greater care and greater effort on the part of our members, would tend to

make our members produce better and more carefully prepared articles. Many a poor paper has been printed next to a very good one, and the author has seen where he was weak and has corrected his weakness; many a paper has been returned with suggestions for its improvement, and has subsequently appeared as a creditable article. Of course, the JOURNAL and its Publication Committee and its editor have been criticised; it would be impossible to be otherwise; it would be impossible to print a single issue that would entirely satisfy every one of the three thousand readers. Questions arise that are matters of the gravest policy, and in determining a line of action, personal considerations must be ignored, and so some persons' feelings are apt to be hurt. But while that is to be regretted, it cannot be helped unless the character of the JOURNAL is to be entirely changed and it is to become a spineless thing, repeating only pleasant words and expressing no definite attitude on any vexed question, and your editor believes that the vast majority of our members do not desire such a change. The printed record of the past years is a clean one, and in every case of a decisive and decided stand on a question of importance that has come up, time has shown that your JOURNAL was on the right side, though at the moment it may not have seemed so. From its very first number, your JOURNAL, under the guidance of its various Publication Committees and its editor, has endeavored to do these things: bring into closer harmony and better organization our county units and their members; aid in every way possible the improvement of our members and the medical profession and the betterment of public health conditions.

YE HUMOURS OF YE BLOOD.

We travel quite a lot in circles, we human animals; not so much is it "the swing of the pendulum," of which we hear a great deal, as a real circular movement. Years ago, every abnormal condition was due to some humor of the blood; the blood was too thick, or too thin, or was bad; "bad" was a very broad and catholic word. Then came a time when all that "humor" business was laughed to scorn and the blood was never at fault; always there was some specific or other thing to be reckoned with and fought to a finish; the blood was a fluid stream that remained always the same. But see how we have changed in these last few years! The blood has become a veritable scientific gold mine for research work; it is found to contain innumerable qualities of a peculiar and complex nature, and to do or not to do, the most remarkable things. Truly, we have come back to the humors of the blood, and not alone do we deal with the humors in the blood of an individual, but we put certain humors into his blood when they are not normally there. All our biologic therapeutic remedies are merely a means of putting into or stimulating in the blood some humor—a something that we know not, but still a something that will be of benefit to the container patient.